REMARKS

The Office Action in the above-identified application has been carefully considered and this amendment has been presented to place this application in condition for allowance. Accordingly, reexamination and reconsideration of this application are respectfully requested.

Claims 18-22, 24-30, and 32-34 are in the present application. It is submitted that the claims, as originally presented, were patentably distinct over the prior art cited by the Examiner and are in full compliance with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112. Changes to the claims, as presented herein, are not made for the purpose of patentability within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. sections 101, 102, 103 or 112. Rather, these changes are made simply for clarification and to round out the scope of protection to which Applicants are entitled. Claims 23 and 31 are canceled.

Claims 18-19, 26, 27, and 34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being unpatentable over Nobakht et al. (U.S. Patent 5,692,011).

Applicant previously argued that Nobakht does not disclose a single component for calculating weights using the reliability of both the input data and the output data as required in the present claims. In response, the Examiner asserts that applicant has not claimed that a single component uses both reliabilities. (Response to Arguments) However, the present claims recite a "real-time learning portion consisting of a single component configured to learn the processing method in real time using the reliability of the input data calculated by said input-data evaluator and the reliability of the output data calculated by said output-data evaluator." (Claim 18; Claims 26 and 34 contain similar limitations) Hence, the present invention clearly claims a

single component [i.e. the real-time learning portion] using both reliabilities. Moreover, this feature is clearly shown in Figure 7, wherein the present invention's weight calculation section 15 (i.e. said single component) uses both the reliability of the input data (from 12) and the reliability of the output data (from 13) to calculate the weight data W.

To meet this limitation, the Examiner contends that in Nobakht's Figure 5, the feed back filter is analogous to the claimed "real-time learning portion," the error signal e1(k) is analogous to the "reliability of the input data," and the error signal e2(k) is analogous to the "reliability of the output data. Further, Nobakht's feed back filter does not directly receive both e1(k) and e2(k). Hence, Nobakht does not disclose a single component for calculating weights using the reliability of both the input data and the output data as required in the present claims. Unfortunately, Applicants are unable to find any description of Nobakht's Figure 5 in the disclosure to provide support for the Examiner's assertions.

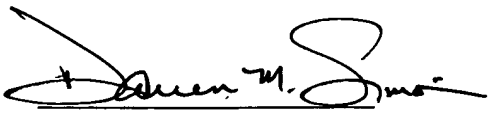
Accordingly, for at least these reasons, Nobakht fails to anticipate the present invention and the rejected claims should be allowed.

In view of the foregoing amendment and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application as now presented is in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the application are respectfully requested.

No additional fees are deemed to be required for the filing of this amendment, but if such are, the Examiner is hereby authorized to charge any insufficient fees or credit any overpayment associated with the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-0320.

If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions, he/she is invited to call the undersigned at the telephone number provided below. The Examiner's consideration of this matter is gratefully acknowledged.

Respectfully submitted,
FROMMER LAWRENCE & HAUG LLP

By: 

Darren M. Simon
Reg. No. 47,946
(212) 588-0800